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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know whether any disciplinary action was taken against this Tahsildar for having issued a circular without the Collector's sanction?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Government have adversely commented on the conduct of the Tahsildar."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Have the Government heard that any disciplinary action was taken in his case?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" It is said that the circular issued was based on an order of the Collector to Magistrates as to the action to be taken in certain eventualities. How did the Collector foresee these eventualities?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" At the time when Mr. Gandhi refused to go to the Round Table Conference, the District Magistrate thought that there might be a resumption of the civil disobedience movement and a definite breach of the Pact, and so he issued those orders."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Did the Collector's circular say that Congressmen should be treated as enemies to the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not remember. Perhaps he has said so."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Does the Government think that the Collector was right in thinking that the Pact would be broken when Mr. Gandhi refused to go at first?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" In case there was a resumption of the civil disobedience movement, he wanted his officers to be ready prepared."

Issue of an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, by the Sub-Magistrates of Chittoor, Tirupati, Puttur and Kuppam.

* 437 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the orders under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code by the Sub-Magistrates of Chittoor, Tirupati, Puttur and Kuppam, to prevent the hoisting of the new national flag were issued on or about 30th August 1931 under instructions of the District Magistrate, Chittoor;

(*b*) whether identical information was laid before each of the sub-magistrates referred to in clause (*a*); and

(*c*) whether the orders issued by the various sub-magistrates referred to in clause (*a*) are all copies of the draft order circulated by the District Magistrate for the information and guidance of the sub-magistrates concerned?

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A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The District Magistrate did not issue specific instructions to each of the Sub-Magistrates mentioned to prohibit the hoisting of the National flag. The District Magistrate decided that in view of the circumstances of the situation it was undesirable to allow the flag-hoisting ceremony to proceed in places where it was likely to endanger the public peace. The Sub-Magistrates were accordingly instructed that if, on the application of the Police, they found it necessary to prohibit the ceremony, they should issue an order on the lines of that drafted by the District Magistrate for their guidance.

Alleged instructions to local authorities to prevent the flag-hoisting ceremony.

* 438 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government issued any instructions to the local authorities to prevent flag-hoisting ceremony on the 30th August; if so, the reasons therefor;

(*b*) whether the flag-hoisting ceremony was observed in all parts of the Presidency except Chittoor district; whether it was prevented in those parts of the Presidency;

(*c*) why was the Union Jack paraded in Chittoor through the streets by the Police Reserve constables on the morning of the 30th August and whether the same was hoisted in the Town Police Station, and, if so, why?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Government understand that the flag-hoisting ceremony was observed in several districts but have no detailed information of the particular places in which it was observed. In the Chittoor district it was temporarily prohibited in the following places:—

Kuppam, Tirupati, Tirumalai, Chittoor, Puttur, Narayanavaram, Tiruttani, and Kalahasti.

(*c*) The police apparently wished to make a demonstration.

Prohibition of all flag-hoisting ceremonies.

* 439 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether all flag-hoisting ceremonies have been prohibited by the Sub-Magistrates of Tirupati, Puttur and Tiruttani, in their respective jurisdictions, and if so, why;

(*b*) why such orders have been issued in spite of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact; and

(*c*) what steps the Government have taken to cancel them?